

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 44
By Wood

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend the magnificent display of courage and bravery displayed by Michael Hall and Scott Studden.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the elected representatives of this General Assembly congratulate and honor those individuals who display exceptional concern for others; and

WHEREAS, it is during the tumults and crises of life that the true mettle of a person's character comes to the fore; and

WHEREAS, Michael Hall and Scott Studden are two fine individuals who deserve generous praise for their rapid response to a life-threatening emergency; and

WHEREAS, at approximately 6 a.m. on Tuesday, November 5, 1996, Michael Hall discovered a house in flames while driving on Highway 58; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hall awoke the next-door neighbors and instructed them to call 911; and

WHEREAS, returning to the house, Michael Hall noticed Mrs. Ellamae Merritt in the front door window; she was nearly overcome by the impenetrable smoke that had risen over her head; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hall forced the front door open and conveyed Mrs. Merritt and her great-grandson, Matthew Hughes to safety; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hall, with the gallant assistance of Mr. Scott Studden, who also stopped to help, rescued a crippled Mr. James Merritt, who was physically unable to get out of the house; and

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WHEREAS, Messieurs Hall and Studden forced down the door and pulled Mr. Merritt , who had passed out from smoke inhalation away from the house; and

WHEREAS, because of the quick response of the Hamilton County EMS ambulance, no one was seriously injured; and

WHEREAS, Scott Studden and Michael Glenn Hall deserve the praise and commendation of this General Assembly for their heroic deeds in courageously assisting the Merritt family in this emergency; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and commend Michael Glenn Hall and Scott Studdens for their unselfish service and heroic acts during the crisis experienced by the Merritt family.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we extend to Scott Studdens and Michael Glenn Hall our best wishes for much continued success in their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.